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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 27 1905

DEAR SIR,

I wish to obtain information respecting the derivation of the place-names of Canada—of the names of the villages, towns, cities and of the natural features, such as rivers, lakes, capes, bays, mountains, etc.—and shall be much obliged if you will give me any information that you may possess or can procure, respecting the below-mentioned name and also respecting the names of any other features in the vicinity of your residence concerning which you have knowledge.

In many localities, the older generation is passing, or has passed away, and unless steps are taken to collect this information, it will, in many instances, be too late. In most communities there are persons who take an interest in things of this nature or that have been connected with the early settlement of the locality. If there are any such in your neighbourhood, will you kindly submit this to them.

Below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information and also the commoner derivatives of place-names in Canada :—

(1.) Whether named after a village, town, or city, or natural feature in any other province or country ; if so, the name of province or country in which the original locality is situated.

(2.) Whether named after a person ; if so, the person's name, occupation, spelling of name as rendered by the person and any details of interest respecting him (or her) such as (a) Whether alive or, if dead, approximate year of death ; (b) Whether at any time a resident of the locality and, if so, whether still living there.

(3.) Whether named after a natural feature ; if so, any details respecting the origin of the name as applied to the feature and the geographical position of the latter.

(4.) Whether the town, village or city ever had any other name or names ; if so, at what dates, approximately, and the origin of these obsolete names.

Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a courtesy.

Yours truly,

JAMES WHITE,
Geographer.

Kindly write your reply on the attached sheet.

To ensure free transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

*Heppworth
Bruce Co Osh*

Hepworth was named by one William
Spencer, who settled here about thirty years ago
and came from Epworth England and using
the H. freely in his speech, the place became and
is called and spelled Hepworth. Mr Spencer
is still living about 78 years old now. has retired
from Hotel life: until about one year ago he
has kept the Spencer House here, one twenty
years ago strong indications were seen of oil
floating on Lake Huron, and six years ago a test well
was put down but no oil but got Natural Gas other
wells were sunk but all produce Gas and now for five
years the village depends largely on Gas as Fuel light
especially for cooking purposes. The boring for oil has
stopped for the present, but no doubt it will be tried
again in the near future as all the Experts believe that
the gas emanates from Coal Oil deposits.
The river Sandus flows about one and one half
miles West of Hepworth. Lake Huron is eight
miles to the West, the Timber industry is a thing
of the past, the soil around is highly adapted
to grazing, and Spring Crops and Small Fruits
The G. T. Raymond saw timber
The village, a large Furniture
Factory is the Chief Industry of the Village.
John Reith
R. Halls
P. M.